



AFWERX AFVENTURES

Specific Topics vs Open Innovation Topics: An Overview

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Overview

- AF SBIR/STTR
- Open Innovation vs. Specific Topics
- Solicitation Schedule
- Resource Links



A silhouette of a person wearing a headset and working on a piece of equipment, possibly a drone or a sensor, in a dimly lit environment. The person is holding a component of the device. The background is dark with some faint, out-of-focus lights.

AF SBIR/STTR

Overview

AF SBIR/STTR

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)

- Established by Congress in the 1980s
- Goal to identify small businesses that could provide a solution to the warfighter in a faster, more efficient manner than was presently available

Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Established in 1992

- Stimulate partnership and collaboration of ideas and technologies between innovative small businesses and nonprofit U.S. research institutions
- The focus is projects with the potential to develop into a product or service beneficial for military and/or commercial sectors

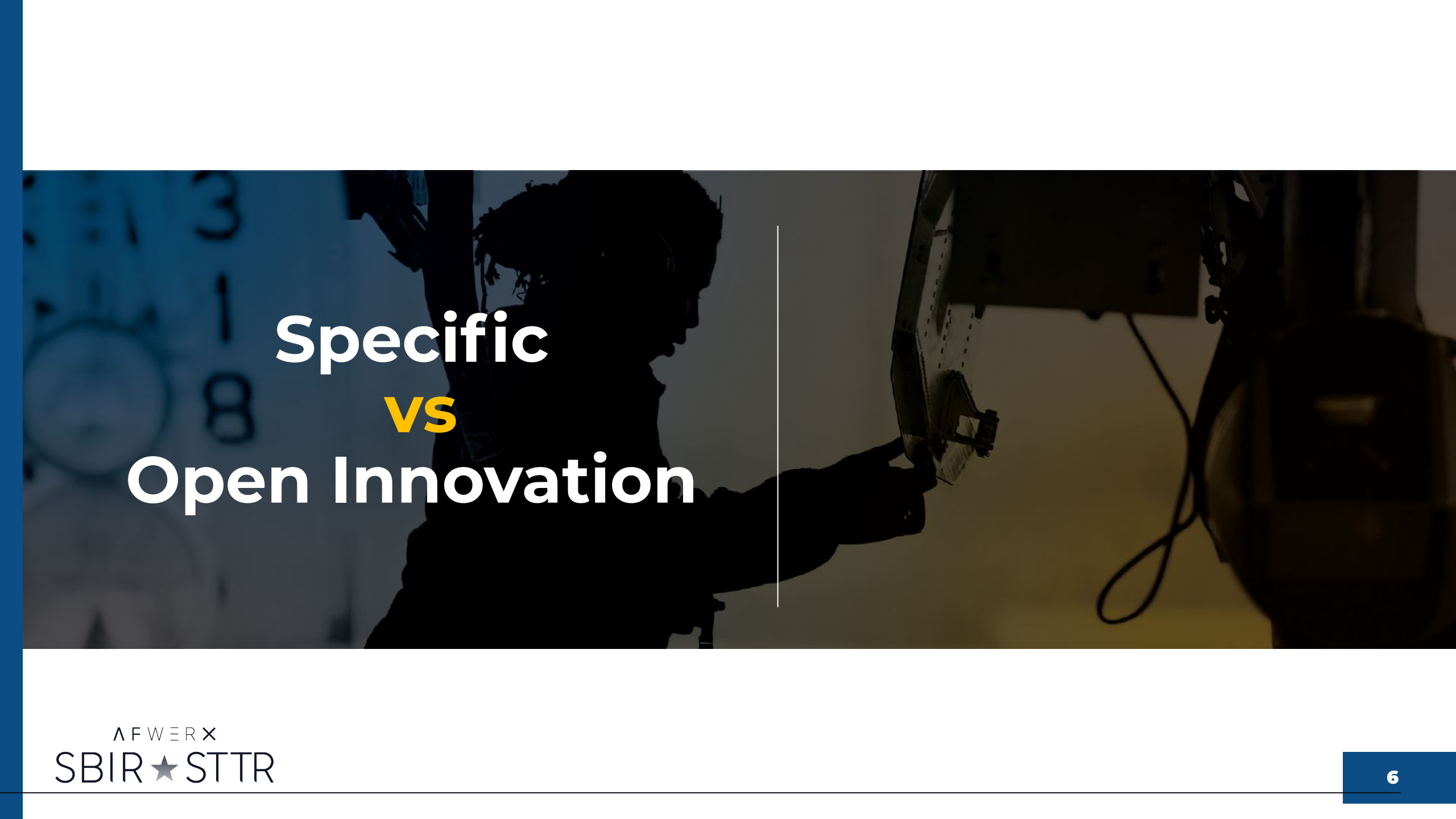
Eligibility

SBIR – Small Business Innovation Research

- **United States-based Small Business Concern (SBC)**
- **For Profit Small Business**
- **500 or less employees**

STTR – Small Business Technology Transfer

- **Research & Development Partnership between a Small Business Concern (SBC) and Research Institution (RI)**
- **SBC must be:**
 - United States-based
 - For Profit
 - 500 or less employees
- **RI must be:**
 - United States Based
 - Non-Profit College or University
 - Federally Funded Research and Development Centers



Specific **VS** Open Innovation

Specific Topics

VS

Open Innovation Topics

- Topics seek innovative solution to a specific problem
- Phase I: NTE \$150K (9 Months) □ Feasibility Study
- AFRL & PEOs evaluate/select Phase I proposals (2 per topic)
- Phase II: \$750K (27 Months) NTE \$1.5M or D2P2 up to \$1.6M
- AFRL & PEO evaluate/select Phase II (1 per topic)
- AFRL TPOC manages Phase I & II contracts
- Letters of upport from customer highly encouraged
- Company's business plan "Relatively" important

- Looking for non-defense commercial solutions to adapt to meet AF needs
- Phase I: NTE \$50K (3 Months) – Customer Discovery □ 5 Page Tech Volume, Pitch Deck
- AFWERX evaluates/selects/manages Phase I proposals (multiple)
- Phase II: NTE \$1.5M (NTE 27 Months) □ 15 Page Tech Volume
- Stakeholders review/evaluate/select proposals
- Non-AFRL (PEO) Centers manage awards
- Customer Memorandum required (Letters of Support)
- Company's business plan "Extremely" important

NTE - Not - to - exceed
AFRL - Air Force Research Laboratory
TPOC - Technical Point of Contact
PEOs - Program Executive Offices

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Specific Topics

Intro

Specific Topics: Roles & Responsibilities

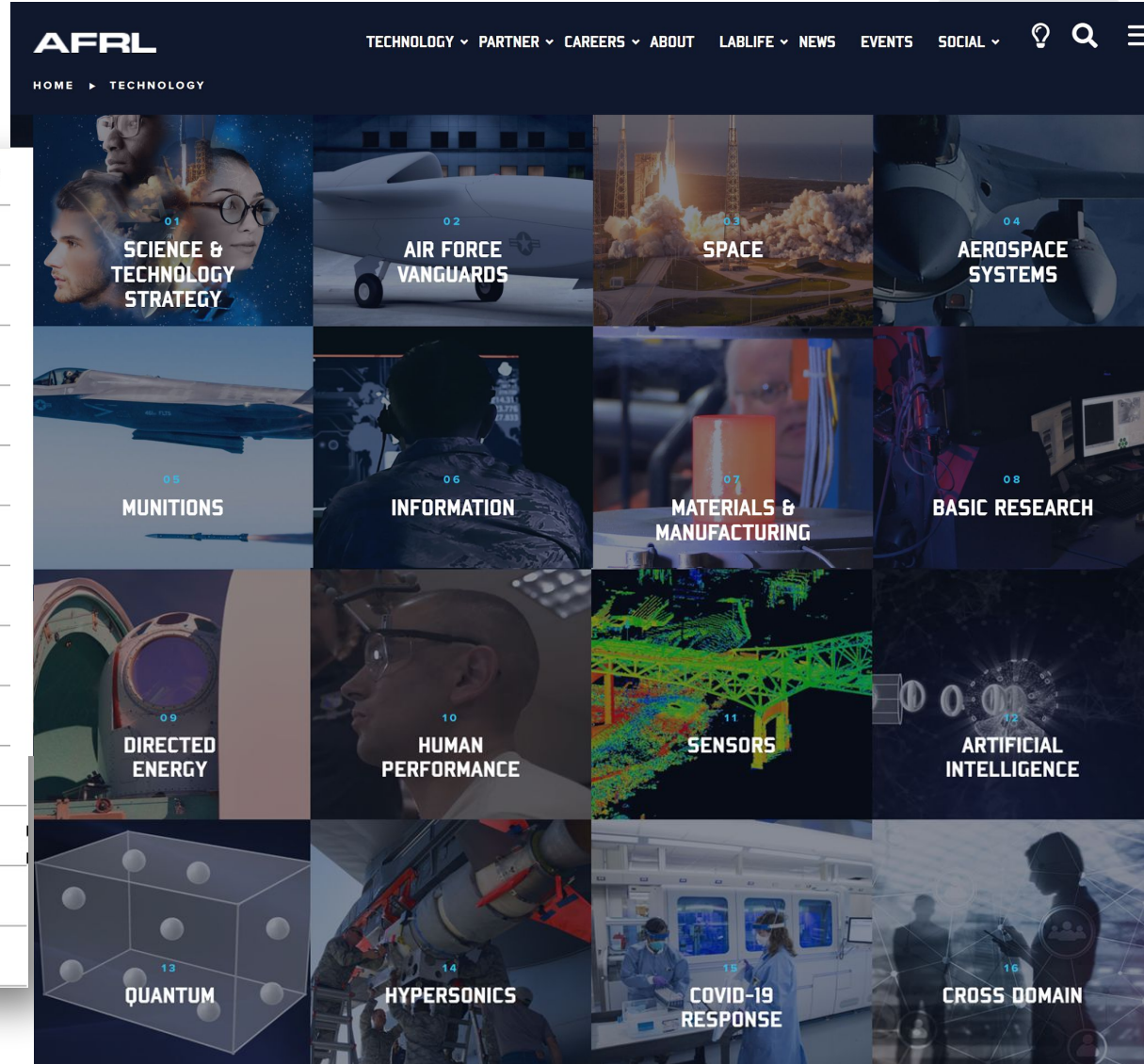
AFRL Technical Directorates are responsible for the contract execution process:

- **TPOCs to conduct evaluations**
- **Contracting Support**
 - Phase II RFPs
 - Selection and Non-Select Funding Notifications
- **Topic Author:** Writes and develops the topic. This maybe a person or a group of people, depending on the organization.
- **Topic Owner (Chief Scientist):** Provides budget and oversight authority on all SBIR/STTR topics within their organization.
- **SBIR/STTR Program Managers:** The PMs of each organization serve as the coordinators and liaisons between AFRL/RGB and the Topic Authors/Topic Owners.

Research Areas

<https://afresearchlab.com/technology/>

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY STRATEGY
AIR FORCE VANGUARDS
AEROSPACE SYSTEMS
INFORMATION
MUNITIONS
MATERIALS & MANUFACTURING
DIRECTED ENERGY
SPACE
HUMAN PERFORMANCE
SENSORS
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
QUANTUM
HYPERSONICS
BASIC RESEARCH



AFWERX
ADVENTURES

A silhouette of a person wearing a headset and working on a circuit board. The background is dark with some blurred elements, possibly a workshop or lab setting. A vertical white line is positioned to the right of the person's head.

Open Innovation Topics

Intro

Open Innovation Topics

AFWERX, in partnership with [Air Force Research Lab \(AFRL\)](#), and the [National Security Innovation Network \(NSIN\)](#), developed the SBIR Open Topics to increase the efficiency, effectiveness, and transition rate of the SBIR program.

- **Many Small Bets ([Phase I](#))** "a simple, open door for innovation" - Up to \$50,000 per award | 1000-1500 awards per year | Two - Three solicitations per year
 - The customer memorandum template for each solicitation will be included in each solicitation as an attachment.
- **Some Medium Bets ([Phase II](#))** - Up to \$750K per award matched funding encouraged | 300-500 awards per year
- **A Few Big Bets ([Strategic Financing](#))** - STRATFI/TACFI Program open to all Phase II awardees

Open Innovation Topics: Roles & Responsibilities

- **Contracting Support**
 - Phase I - Proposal Instructions & Contract Award
 - Phase II - RFPs & Contract Award
 - Selection and Non-Select Funding Notifications
- **SBIR/STTR Program Managers**
 - Coordinate proposal evaluations
 - Facilitate engagement between commercial innovators and DoD Partners
 - Provide general oversight of contract execution
 - Assist TPOCs as required
- **TPOCs**
 - The technical onsite manager for a Phase II contract
 - POC appointed by the Customer & End-User from Phase I
 - Monitor the contractor's performance and successful completion of the contract
 - Execute delivery of all contract milestones up to the final technical report


Supplemental Funding Pilot Program (STRATFI & TACFI)

The purpose of this pilot program is to catalyze the relationships between Air Force and Space Force end-users and acquisition professionals, private-sector innovators, and the investment community and to bridge the capability gap between current SBIR/STTR Phase II efforts and Phase III scaling efforts, facilitating delivery of strategic capabilities for the Department of the Air Force.

The program is expected to run from January - June

STRATFI/TACFI award requirements:

- On an active DAF SBIR/STTR Phase 2 or completed within 3 years
- The subject effort has not already been awarded a “Sequential” Phase 2
- At least 90 days have passed since the beginning of Phase 2 execution
- Not executing a prior STRATFI effort at the time of submission
- Able to achieve the minimum matching/investment requirements
- Able to obtain the required End-User and Customer Memorandum

A silhouette of a person wearing a headset and working on a piece of equipment, possibly a drone or a specialized device, in a dimly lit environment. The person is on the left, and the equipment is on the right. A vertical white line separates the person from the equipment.

Solicitation Schedule

Active Solicitation Schedules

(subject to change)

2021

FY	DoD BAA Cycle	BAA			Selections Due	Awards Due
		Pre-Release	Open	Close	*(90 days after closing date)	(180 days after Closing date)
2021	X20.1 , X20.A , X21.1 , X21.A					
2021	X21.2 , X21.B , 21.2 , 21.B , X21.3 , X21.C , 21.3 , 21.C , X22.1 , X22.A , 22.1 , 22.A , X22.2 , X22.B , 22.2 , 22.B , X22.3 , X22.C , 22.3 , 22.C					
2021	SBIR 21.1 and STTR 21.A	24-Nov-20	6-Jan-21	10-Feb-21	11-May-21	9-Aug-21
2021	SBIR 21.2 and STTR 21.B	21-Apr-21	19-May-21	17-Jun-21	15-Sep-21	14-Dec-21
2021	SBIR 21.3 and STTR 21.C	25-Aug-21	23-Sep-21	22-Oct-21	20-Jan-22	20-Apr-22

2022

FY	DoD BAA Cycle	BAA			Selections Due	Awards Due
		Pre-Release	Open	Close	*(90 days after closing date)	(180 days after Closing date)
2022	SBIR 22.1 and STTR 22.A	23-Nov-21	5-Jan-22	10-Feb-22	11-May-22	9-Aug-22
2022	SBIR 22.2 and STTR 22.B	19-Apr-22	17-May-22	15-Jun-22	13-Sep-22	12-Dec-22
2022	SBIR 22.3 and STTR 22.C	23-Aug-22	21-Sep-22	20-Oct-22	18-Jan-23	18-Apr-23

<https://www.dodsbirsttr.mil/submissions/login>



Resource Links

Resource Links

SBIR GOV - <https://www.sbir.gov/solicitations>

Defense SBIR/STTR Innovation Portal -
<https://www.dodsbirsttr.mil/submissions/login>

DISP Topic & Topic Q&A - <https://www.dodsbirsttr.mil/topics-app/>

AF Research Laboratory - <https://afresearchlab.com/technology/>

AFRL Technology - <https://afresearchlab.com/technology/>

AFWERX SBIR/STTR - <https://www.afsbirsttr.af.mil/>

AFVentures - <https://www.afwerx.af.mil/AFV%20Overview.html>





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Questions?

Please type your questions in the Q&A section